

Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for increasing the oxidation and bleaching action of a peroxygen compound comprising the step of mixing the peroxygen compound with a~~The use of~~ transition metal ~~complexes~~ complex having nitrogen-containing ligands, ~~as catalyst for peroxygen compounds~~, wherein the transition metal ~~complexes have~~ complex has the formula (1)



where

M is a metal atom selected from the group consisting of Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Mo, and W,

L is a ligand from the group of nitrogen-containing heterocycles,

X is chloride, bromide, nitrate, perchlorate, sulfate, ammonia, tetrafluoroborate, hexafluorophosphate or an anion of an organic acid having 1 to 22 carbon atoms,

n is a number from 2 to 4 and m is a number from 0 to 4.

2. (Currently Amended) The use method as claimed in claim 1, wherein L in the formula (1) is pyridine, imidazole, picoline, imidazoline, pyrrole, pyrazole, triazole, hexamethylenimine, piperidine or lutidine.

3. (Currently Amended) The use method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the peroxygen compound used is organic peracids, hydrogen peroxide, perborate, and percarbonate, ~~and or~~ mixtures thereof.

4. (Currently Amended) The use method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mixing step occurs in an aqueous solutions solution~~for textile washing, in aqueous cleaning solutions for hard surfaces and for the bleaching of colored soilings.~~

5. (Currently Amended) The ~~use method~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the mixing step further comprises mixing a compound which eliminates peroxocarboxylic acid under perhydrolysis conditions ~~is used at the same time as the complex compound of the formula 1.~~

6. (Currently Amended) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition comprising a transition metal complex of the formula (1) ~~as in claim 1~~



where

M is a metal atom selected from the group consisting of Mn, Fe, Co, Ni, Mo, and W,

L is a ligand from the group of nitrogen-containing heterocycles,

X is chloride, bromide, nitrate, perchlorate, sulfate, ammonia, tetrafluoroborate, hexafluorophosphate or an anion of an organic acid having 1 to 22 carbon atoms,

n is a number from 2 to 4 and m is a number from 0 to 4.

7. (Currently Amended) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition as claimed in claim 6, comprising 0.0025 to 1% by weight, ~~in particular 0.01% by weight to 0.1% by weight,~~ of the transition metal complex of the formula (1) as in claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition as claimed in claim 6, further comprising ~~a transition metal complex of the formula 1 as in claim 1,~~ and also 1 to 10% by weight, ~~in particular 2% by weight to 6% by weight,~~ of a compound which eliminates peroxycarboxylic acid under perhydrolysis conditions.

9. (New) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition as claimed in claim 6, comprising 0.01% by weight to 0.1% by weight of the transition metal complex of formula (1).

10. (New) A washing, bleaching or cleaning composition as claimed in claim 6, further comprising 2% by weight to 6% by weight of a compound which eliminates peroxy-carboxylic acid under perhydrolysis conditions.